# **Important Coins of the Islamic World**

# To be sold by auction at:

Sotheby's, in the Lower Grosvenor Gallery The Aeolian Hall, Bloomfield Place New Bond Street London W1A 2AA

## **Days of Sale:**

Thursday 24 October 2019 at 12.00 noon and 2.30 pm

## **Public viewing:**

Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ

Monday 21 October 10.00 am to 4.30 pm Tuesday 22 October 10.00 am to 4.30 pm Wednesday 23 October 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Or by previous appointment.

# Catalogue no. 103

### Price £15

## **Enquiries:**

Stephen Lloyd or Tom Eden

## **Cover illustrations:**

Lot 11 (front); lot 4 (back); lots 25, 26 (inside front); lots 91 (inside back)

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**Cheques and banker's drafts** should be drawn on a UK bank. We require seven days to clear cheques unless special arrangements have been made in advance of the sale. **Please note foreign cheques will not be accepted.** 

**Sterling Cash**. Subject to statutory limits.

# Order of Sale

# Thursday 24 October 2019

## Session A Starting at 12.00 noon

Arab-Sasanian and related issues	lots	1-10
An important Umayyad dinar from the 'Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin bi'l-Hijaz'	lot	11
Umayyad	lots	12-21
Abbasid	lots	22-49
Spain and North Africa	lots	50-58
Egypt, Arabia and Syria	lots	59-76
Rum Seljuqs and Ottoman	lots	77-79
Iran and the East	lots	80-87
Mughal	lots	88-90
Coin Dies	lots	91-93

## Session B Starting at 2.30pm

Arab-Sasanian, Arab-Byzantine and related issues	lots	101-117
Umayyad	lots	118-170
Abbasid	lots	171-225
Spain and North Africa	lots	226-228
Tulunid and Ikhshidid	lots	229-235
Fatimid	lots	236-262
Ayyubid and Mamluk	lots	263-271
Arabia and the Gulf	lots	272-280
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Iran and the East	lots	292-323
India	lots	324-325
Numismatic Books	lots	326-327



Lot 11



#### IMPORTANT COINS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

#### **SESSION A**

## Thursday 24 October 2019, starting at 12.00 noon



1

# ARAB-SASANIAN, YAZDIGERD III TYPE Drachm, NAR (Narmashir), YE 20 (=31h)

Obverse: In second quadrant of margin: jayyid

Weight: 4.02g

References: Qaseer 7; Album 2

Edge bend, some staining on reverse, better than very fine and rare

£800-1,200

These very rare pieces with *jayyid* in the obverse margin are commonly regarded as the earliest Sasanian-style silver drachms to carry an Arabic legend, giving them a claim to the title of the first Islamic silver coins.



2

# ARAB-SASANIAN, AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF Drachm, ART (Ardashir Khurra) 77h

Weight: 4.12g Reference: SICA 1, 40

About extremely fine, rare

£700-1,000



3

## ARAB-SASANIAN, AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF

### Drachm, BYŠ (Bishapur) 77h

Obverse: with radial arrangement of legend in outer margin, pellets to left and right of crown

Weight: 3.90g Reference: SICA 1, 216

Very fine to good very fine

£1,000-1,500



4 ARAB-SASANIAN, BISHR B. MARWAN (governor of Kufa 73-75h) Drachm, AKWLA (Aqola, near Kufa) 73h

Obverse: In margin: bismillah – la ilaha illa Allah – wahdahu Muhammad – rasul Allah;

before bust, date in Arabic: sanat thalath | wa saba'in

Reverse: Fire altar with attendants; Pahlawi mint-signature AKWLA to left, BBM monogram to right

Weight: 3.19g

Reference: cf Baldwin's of St James's auction 4, 9 May 2017, lot 101 (with similar legends but with mint signature and

monogram transposed)

Almost very fine and excessively rare, an important transitional type

£25,000-35,000

The Islamic conquests of the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD brought together lands which had never previously been united under a single ruling authority. Much of the Eastern part of the Islamic world had been under Sasanian rule, while much of the Western part had been under Roman and Byzantine control. Each had their own coinage traditions, with the Byzantines striking plentiful gold solidi and copper fulus but little silver, while the Sasanian coinage was based on the silver drachm with gold and copper produced in much smaller quantities.

During the 70s Hijri, a series of reforms commenced which would culminate in the introduction of a single, distinctively Islamic precious metal coinage struck and used throughout the Islamic world. A number of experimental designs were introduced at Damascus, the Umayyad capital, but Kufa (which appears as Aqola on the coinage) also played a leading role in this process, possibly because the caliph's brother, Bishr b. Marwan, was based at Kufa in his capacity as Governor of Iraq.

At Damascus, silver drachms based on earlier Arab-Sasanian types were struck between 72h-75h. Several types were produced, but all shared the innovation of carrying a date written in Arabic, rather than the Pahlawi dates which had been retained from their Sasanian predecessors. The present coin shares this feature – the earliest such drachm known for a mint outside Damascus – with the Arabic date placed before the bust where a caliph or governor would normally have been named at this time. On the reverse, however, the coin reverts to the traditional Pahlawi, but once again the legends are disposed differently from the norm. The mint-signature is placed on the *left*, which is where standard Arab-Sasanian drachms carry the date in Pahlawi, but which is available for the mint on the present coin since the date has been moved to the obverse. On the right, in the place vacated by the mint-signature, is an intriguing Pahlawi monogram which has been read as BBM and interpreted as an abbreviation for the first letters of 'Bishr Bin Marwan.' The result is a remarkable hybrid, on which the three standard elements of an Arab-Sasanian drachm (mint, date, governor's name) are all retained, but which demonstrates the gradual adoption of Arabic as the official language of the empire. The reduced prominence of the governor's name, even of someone as important as Bishr b. Marwan, also fits with the broader trend of introducing a standard, pan-Islamic coinage rather than one struck by a number of different regional governors.

Another type of transitional drachm was also struck at Aqola in this year, and is truly anonymous since it carries neither the name of a Muslim governor nor that of the long-dead Khusraw II. The reverse of this coin is of standard type, with Pahlawi date to left and mint-name to right, while the obverse features  $Muhammad\ rasul\ Allah$  before the bust in place of a ruler's name. Like the present piece, Treadwell suggests that this type probably pre-dated the well-known  $Caliph\ Orans$  coinage of Bishr b. Marwan, introduced at Aqola in 73h and struck there for two years afterwards.







## ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, MUHAMMAD (fl. 147h)

Hemidrachm, Tabaristan 147h

Obverse: Muhammad - ibn amir al-mu'minin before bust and in second quadrant of margin

Weight: 1.27g Reference: Malek 54.3

Flan lamination on reverse and has been clipped and made round (for jewellery?), otherwise very fine or better and extremely rare £2,500-3,000







6

# **ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN**, AL-MAHDI MUHAMMAD AND RAWH B. HATIM (146-148h) **Hemidrachm, Tabaristan 147h**

Obverse: al-Mahdi Muhammad – amir al-mu'minin before and behind bust Reverse: mimma amr bihi Rawh ibn Hatim to left, mint and date to right

Weight: 2.11g Reference: Malek 54

Almost extremely fine and extremely rare

£3,000-3,500







7

# ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, AL-MAHDI MUHAMMAD AND RAWH B. HATIM (146-148h) Hemidrachm, Tabaristan 148h

Obverse: al-Mahdi Muhammad – amir al-mu'minin before and behind bust Reverse: mimma amr bihi Rawh ibn Hatim to left, mint and date to right

Weight: 1.86g

Reference: cf Malek type 54 [dated 147h]

Extremely fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished

£3,500-4,000







# **ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN**, AL-MAHDI MUHAMMAD AND RAWH B. HATIM (146-148h) **Hemidrachm, Tabaristan 148h**

Obverse: al-Mahdi Muhammad – amir al-mu'minin before and behind bust Reverse: mimma amr bihi Rawh ibn Hatim to left, mint and date to right

Weight: 2.18g

Reference: cf Malek type 54 [dated 147h]

Extremely fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished

£3,500-4,000







9

## ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, QUDAID (fl. 175h) Hemidrachm, Tabaristan PYE 140 (=175h)

Weight: 2.02g Reference: Malek 137

Almost extremely fine and very rare

£1,500-2,000









10

## ABBASID GOVERNORS OF TABARISTAN, NUSAYR (fl. 168h)

Hemidrachm, al-Rayy 168h

Obverse: name of governor in Pahlawi before bust

Reverse: mint and date in Arabic to left and right of fire-altar and attendants

Weight: 2.05g Reference: Malek 212

Good extremely fine and very rare

£1,500-2,000







11 UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-125h) Dinar, Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin bi'l-Hijaz 105h

Reverse: In field: Allah ahad Allah | al-samad lam yalid | wa lam yulad Maʻdin | Amir al-Muʻminin | bi'l-Hijaz

Weight: 4.27g

References: Fahmy 128, same dies; Bernardi 48Ed; Walker ANS.16 = Miles, RIC 66

Good extremely fine, extremely rare and an historically important coin

£1,400,000-1,600,000

Ex Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, 'Classical Rarities of Islamic Coinage,' 25 April 2012, lot 17.

The only other specimen of this coin to appear at public auction was sold in these rooms, 4 April 2011, lot 12 (for a hammer price of £3.1million).

EXTREMELY RARE AND OF GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST, dinars from the 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful in the Hijaz' have the distinction of being the first Islamic coins to mention a location within the present Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The inscription which makes this coin so special is not difficult to translate: *Ma'din Amir al-Mu'minin bi'l-Hijaz* simply means 'Mine of the Commander of the Faithful, in the Hijaz.' But while scholars continue to study its precise meaning and significance, there are strong grounds for believing that the gold used in their manufacture came from a mine located between the Holy Cities of Makka and al-Madina, which was itself owned not only by several caliphs but which had been given to another former owner by the Prophet himself.



"In the name of Allah was struck this dinar in the year five and one hundred"

"Allah is One, Allah is Eternal, He does not beget, nor was He begotten.

Mine of the Commander of the Faithful in the Hijaz"

The meaning of Ma'din in this context remains the subject of scholarly debate, because it can be used figuratively (much as one can describe someone as 'a mine of information' in English) as well as literally. But there are good reasons to accept that Ma'din refers to a place from which ores or metals are mined and recovered. This is certainly how the word is used on Abbasid silver dirhams struck less than a century later, on which the mint-name in the margin is given as  $Ma'din \, al$ -Shash or  $Ma'din \, Bajunays$ , meaning 'the mine at Tashkent' and 'the mine at Bajunays' respectively. Legends on other Umayyad coins are, without exception, either religious (verses from the Qur'an) or practical (information about where, and on some copper coins by whom, they were struck), and it is difficult to see why we should expect  $Ma'din \, Amir \, al$ - $Mu'minin \, to \, be anything \, different.$ 

Amir al-Mu'minin, meaning 'Commander of the Faithful,' is a title which can only refer to the caliph himself. However, two caliphs held office during the year 105h, when Hisham (105-125h) succeeded Yazid II (101-105h). Is it possible to say which of these two caliphs amir al-mu'minin denotes? Yazid II appears to have been in Syria throughout this year, and probably died in Damascus (al-Tabari 1463). Hisham was also in Syria when he became caliph but must have travelled to the Holy Places soon afterwards, since we hear of him delivering a funeral speech at the cemetery near al-Madina later in the year 105h (al-Tabari 1472), and he remained in the region in 106h also. Since Hisham was in the Hijaz in the year when these remarkable coins were issued, while Yazid was not, we are probably justified in following Miles in believing that Hisham is the caliph mentioned here (Miles 1972, p.266).

Remarkably, Miles was able to identify a very plausible candidate for exactly where the 'mine of the Commander of the Faithful in the Hijaz' may have been located. According to Miles, who built on earlier research by Paul Casanova, the caliph 'Umar (99-101h) purchased a mine called the *Ma'din Bani Sulaym*, located between Medina and Mecca. This mine had previously been held by the sons of Bilal al-Harith, who had been granted it by the Prophet himself. According to Miles, 'Casanova quite reasonably argued that the mine became known as the Mine of the Amir al-Mu'minin and that Yazid II inherited it from his predecessor; hence the phrase amir al-mu'minin on the issue of 105 H' (Miles 1972, p.266). Given that Miles and Casanova had no difficulty accepting that Yazid could inherit the mine from 'Umar, there seems no reason to doubt that Hisham could have inherited it from Yazid in his turn. If so, then the mine mentioned on this coin not only belonged to at least three caliphs, but had been bestowed on a previous owner by the Prophet himself.

Thus the *Ma'din amir al-mu'minin* inscription seems best understood as indicating the origin of the gold used to strike these rare coins. No other mediaeval Islamic gold coin carries this information. Mediaeval Islamic gold coins often include the place of manufacture in the marginal legend with the date, but the actual source of the gold is not indicated. Why was it felt necessary to include this information on these dinars? One possibility is that there may have been an administrative reason: these coins were produced from gold which came from the caliph's private resources, rather than state revenues, and were marked as such for accounting purposes. But there are also grounds for believing that these coins were not only made from gold mined in the Hijaz, but were actually struck there too.

The dies used on all Ma'din dinars were prepared in Damascus, and we know that the obverse die used to strike this very piece was also used to manufacture standard Umayyad dinars dated 105h. But travelling mints were not uncommon in the ancient world, and the simple tools needed to strike coins by hand were eminently portable. Workers and equipment from Damascus could have accompanied Hisham on his journey from Syria to the Hijaz in 105h, and a major pilgrim highway went right past the  $Ma'din \, Bani \, Sulaym$  - an inscription recording the rebuilding of this road in 304h was found among old mine-workings (Miles 1950). Thus the caliph might easily have taken the opportunity to visit his mine  $en \, route$  and strike a small quantity of special gold dinars bearing the  $Ma'din \, Amir \, al$ - $Mu'minin \, bi'l$ - $Hijaz \, legend$ . It is also possible that the raw gold was sent back to Damascus and the coins struck there, but this is harder to reconcile with the caliph's movements given that Hisham was still in Arabia in the year 106h and had not yet returned to Syria. Thus in this case it seems preferable to assume that these rare and fascinating coins were actually struck in the Hijaz region from gold mined there, making them the earliest Islamic gold coins to have been struck in present-day Saudi Arabia.

## Specialist References:

Miles 1950 Miles, G.C., Rare Islamic Coins, ANS Numismatic Notes and Monographs 118, New York, 1950

Miles 1972 Miles, G.C., 'A Unique Umayyad dinar of 91h,' Revue Numismatique, 6e Serie, Tome 14 (1972), pp. 264-268









UMAYYAD, TEMP. YAZID II (101-105h)

Dinar, Ifriqiya 104h Weight: 4.22g

References: SICA 2, 336, same dies; Album 134A; Bernardi 44Ca; Walker –

Some obverse die rust (as on the Ashmolean specimen cited above), good very fine and extremely rare £8,000-12,000

This is a very rare date for post-Reform Umayyad gold coins of Ifriqiya, and was unknown to Walker.







13

UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-126h) Dirham, al-Bab 117h

Weight: 1.94g

Reference: Klat 144, citing two examples of this date

Reverse stained and marks on edge, almost very fine and extremely rare

£1,000-1,500







14

UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h) Dirham, Bihqubadh al-A'la 79h

Weight: 2.50g

Reference: Klat 194, same dies

Slightly clipped and minor deposit, otherwise good very fine and excessively rare

£10,000-15,000

The present coin is struck from the same pair of dies used to strike both specimens recorded by Klat.

There were in fact three different Bihqubadh mints active in Umayyad times, which appear on the coinage as Bihqubadh al-Ala (Upper Bihqubadh), Bihqubadh al-Asfal (Lower Bihqubadh) and Bihqubadh al-Awsat (Central Bihqubadh). The three Bihqubadh districts were located in Iraq, to the west of the Euphrates.

Bihqubadh al-'Ala is the rarest of the three, and was unknown to Walker. It was made up of six smaller sub-districts, including the ruins around the ancient city of Babylon.



UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)

**Dirham, Fasa 80h**Weight: 2.76g
Reference: Klat 511

Minor staining and small edge nick, otherwise very fine to good very fine and rare

£800-1,000



16

UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)

**Dirham, Manadhir 81h**Weight: 2.82g
Reference: Klat 612

Toned, good very fine and rare

£600-800



17

UMAYYAD, TEMP. 'ABD AL-MALIK B. MARWAN (65-86h)

**Dirham, Nahr Tira 81h** Weight: 2.68g

Reference: Klat 639, same reverse die

Good very fine, rare £600-800



18

UMAYYAD, TEMP. HISHAM (105-126h)

Fals, al-Mansura 122h Weight: 1.44g

References: Album A204; cf SARC auction 32, 13 September 2018, lot 249

Fair to fine and extremely rare

£700-1,000

The extremely rare mint of al-Mansura was located within the province of Sind, about 40 miles north-east of present-day Hyderabad in Pakistan.





#### UMAYYAD, TEMP. AL-HAJJAJ B. YUSUF

#### Bronze weight, uniface, for 7/10ths of a dinar

Obverse: bismillah | amr al-amir a- | l-Hajjaj ibn Yu- | suf bi'l-wa- | fa hadha miz- | an saba't

Reverse: plain with seven punch-marks

Weight: 2.51g

Reference: cf Morton & Eden auction 92, 26 April 2018, lot 26

Pierced, otherwise about very fine with clear legends, very rare

£600-800

The term *mizan saba't* on this piece identifies it as a dirham weight, this being defined as 7/10ths of the canonical dinar, which also explains the seven punch-marks on the reverse of the piece.



20

#### UMAYYAD, TEMP. MARWAN II (127-132h)

#### Lead seal, uniface, dated 131h

In margin: amr 'Abd Allah amir al-mu'minin sanat ihda wa thalathin wa mi'at

In field: Mahr... | arbat | wa 'ashrin

Weight: 14.50g

Minor metal fault in centre (partly obscuring top line of field), otherwise good very fine and very rare £1,000-1,500







21

# UMAYYAD/ABBASID, TEMP. 'ABD AL-RAHMAN B. HABIB AL-FIHRI Dirham, Ifriqiya 134h

Reverse: of standard Umayyad type with the Surat al-Ikhlas in four lines

Weight: 2.80g

References: cf Lowick 267 [dated 133h]; cf Morton & Eden auction 89, 25 October 2017, lot 15

Cleaned, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare

£3,000-4,000

'Abd al-Rahman b. Habib al-Fihri seized power in North Africa in 126h, taking advantage of the chaos which followed the death of the caliph Hisham to expel the Umayyad governor. The new caliph, Marwan II, had little choice but to confirm 'Abd al-Rahman as the officially appointed governor there, and he survived the overthrow of the Umayyads to remain in post under the new Abbasid caliph, al-Saffah. Over time, however, 'Abd al-Rahman became more and more concerned by repeated Abbasid demands for him to submit to them, and he switched his allegiance to the Umayyad cause. At 'Abd al-Rahman's invitation the surviving members of the Umayyad family were able to take refuge in North Africa, where the caliph Hisham's grandson, 'Abd al-Rahman b. Mu'awiya b. Hisham, established the line of Spanish Umayyads in 138h.

Abd al-Rahman b. Habib al-Fihri was murdered in 137h by his brother Ilyas, allegedly at the urging of his wife.







**ABBASID**, AL-RASHID (170-193h) **One-sixth dirham**, **undated** *Obverse margin*: chain border *Obverse field*: citing *Da'ud* 

Reverse margin: mimma amr bihi 'Abd Allah Harun amir al-mu'minin

Reverse field: triplet of pellets below

Weight: 0.43g

Minor staining but good very fine and extremely rare, apparently unpublished

£700-1,000

The governor *Da'ud* is also cited on Abbasid dirhams struck at Jayy in the year 172h (Lowick 1578), which also feature the distinctive triplet of pellets on the reverse.





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**ABBASID**, TEMP. AL-RASHID (170-193h) **Dirham**, **Madinat al-Salam 176h** *Reverse field:* citing *Ja'far* below

Weight: 2.95g

References: Lowick 1302; SCC -; SICA 3, -

Good very fine and an extremely rare date

£700-1,000







24

ABBASID, ZUBAYDA BINT JA FAR (c.152/3-216h)

**Lead seal** 

Obverse: In four lines: barakat min | Allah li-Umm | Ja'far 'ala | yaday [...]

Weight: 5.68g

References: cf Morton & Eden auction 95, 24 October 2018, lot 57 for a comparable seal naming al-Khayzuran

 ${\it Minor loss below fourth line (hence last word unreadable), otherwise good very {\it fine and of the highest rarity}}$ 

£2,000-3,000

Zubayda bint Jaʻfar was a granddaughter of the second Abbasid caliph, al-Mansur, and thus a cousin of Harun al-Rashid whom she married in 165h. Her mother, Salsal, was an elder sister of Harun's mother, al-Khayzuran. Zubayda is named on this seal as  $Umm\ Ja\'far$ , the kunya bestowed on her in recognition of her status as granddaughter of one caliph (Abu Jaʻfar al-Mansur) and wife of another (Abu Jaʻfar Harun al-Rashid). The future caliph al-Amin was her son, and his successor and rival al-Ma'mun was her stepson.

Zubayda was celebrated for her piety – Ibn Khallikan reported that her palace 'sounded like a beehive' because she kept a hundred maids who had memorized the Qur'an – and this was expressed in the lavish engineering and construction projects which she funded in the Holy Places and along the pilgrimage roads which led to them. Ibn Battuta wrote that 'every reservoir, pool or well on the road from Makka to Baghdad is due to her lavish generosity.' Her works in the Holy Places themselves included the construction an aqueduct which conveyed water to Makka from a spring located some sixty miles east, and she also paid for the Well of Zamzam, which was then almost dry, to be cleaned and deepened. She herself performed the Hajj pilgrimage at least five times, and it has been suggested that seals such as these would have been fixed to small cloth bags containing alms to be distributed on these occasions.









ABBASID, AL-MUNTASIR (248h) Dinar, Surra man ra'a 248h

Weight: 4.11g

References: Bernardi 159Jc; Qatar 1221

Creased with some edge damage and associated marks and scuffs, otherwise very fine and extremely rare

£4,000-6,000







26

ABBASID, AL-MUNTASIR (248h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 247h

Reverse field: Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muntasir billah

Weight: 4.27g

Reference: Bernardi type 159 [unrecorded for this mint]

Minor staining on obverse and light scratches in field, otherwise good very fine and of the highest rarity

£20,000-30,000

The eldest of three sons of the caliph Mutawakkil (232-247h), al-Muntasir was named as an heir to the caliphate along with two of his brothers, al-Mu'tazz and al-Mu'ayyad. As the eldest of the three he was initially designated heir apparent, but al-Mutawakkil's favour soon shifted towards al-Mu'tazz instead. During the latter years of al-Mutawakkil's reign the rivalry between al-Muntasir and al-Mu'tazz became a proxy for the struggle between two competing court factions. Al-Mu'tazz was supported by the traditional Abbasid aristocracy, including the Tahirids, while al-Muntasir was backed by the Turkish troops and commanders of the Palace guard.

Matters came to a head in 247h when al-Mutawakkil's treatment of al-Mustansir became increasingly disrespectful and threatening, until the latter decided to strike first. A band of Turkish guards murdered al-Mutawakkil in the audience hall of the palace, and al-Muntasir was named caliph, backed by Turkish swords. This event marks the beginning of the nine-year period known as the 'Anarchy at Samarra,' which nearly brought about the collapse of the Abbasid caliphate.

Once established as caliph, al-Mustansir had his brothers al-Mu'tazz and al-Mu'ayyad swear oaths of loyalty to him. His Turkish commanders, fearing for their own position should al-Mu'tazz ever become caliph in future, repeatedly urged al-Muntasir to go beyond this step and compel both to write formal letters of abdication. Eventually, al-Muntasir acquiesced, although al-Tabari reports that he feared his brothers might be killed by the Turks were he to refuse, and al-Mu'tazz and al-Mu'ayyad publicly renounced their claims to the caliphate in 248h.

Al-Muntasir's reign was brief. Shortly before arranging for the abdication of his younger brothers, he arranged for an expedition to be mounted against the Byzantines, and a force of some 10,000 men headed by Wasif al-Turki spent four years campaigning on the frontiers. Early in 248h, however, he became ill and died after a reign of less than six months, aged twenty-five. While his death may have been the result of natural causes, some accounts inevitably suspected foul play and one story relates that a physician murdered him with a poisoned lancet.

Because of the brevity of his reign al-Muntasir's gold coinage is the rarest of any Abbasid caliph. This is highlighted by their absence from the Kazan collection of Islamic gold coins, where the cataloguer noted, 'The dinars of al-Mustansir are extraordinarily rare, therefore a silver dirham has been included to represent this caliph.' Of the few dinars bearing his name to survive today, virtually all were struck at Samarra. The example offered here from Baghdad is of the highest rarity, and appears to be unpublished.









ABBASID, AL-MUHTADI (255-256h)

Dinar, San'a 256h

Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul Allah | al-Muhtadi billah | amir al-mu'minin

Weight: 2.81g

Reference: Bernardi 167El

Good very fine and extremely rare

£7,000-9,000

San 'a is one of the rarest mints for dinars of the short-lived caliph al-Muhtadi.





28

ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, al-Ahwaz 274h

Obverse field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala Allah | Ahmad ibn al-Muwaffaq billah | wa

Weight: 4.37g

Reference: Bernardi 184Nd

Centres weak, good very fine and rare

£1,500-2,000





29

ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, al-Ahwaz 275h

Obverse field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah

Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muʻtamid ʻala Allah | Ahmad ibn al-Muwaffaq billah | wa

Weight: 4.20g

Reference: cf Bernardi 184Nd (this date not listed)

Some weak striking, very fine overall and rare

£1,000-1,500

Bernardi records three Abbasid dinars struck at al-Ahwaz in this year (type 177Nd), all apparently without the extra title *al-nasir li-din Allah* on the obverse and without the name of *Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq* on the reverse.









ABBASID, AL-MU'TAMID (256-279h)

Dinar, Fars 274h

Obverse field: la ilaha illa | Allah wahdahu | la sharik lahu | al-nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Muʻtamid ʻala-'llah | Ahmad b. al-Muwaffaq billah

Weight: 4.02g

References: Lloyd, Saffarids GFa274A, same dies; cf Bernardi type 184 (unrecorded for this mint)

Struck from rusty dies, good very fine and extremely rare

£4,000-5,000

This extremely rare dinar records a brief period when the Abbasids regained control of the province of Fars, held by the Saffarids under 'Amr b. al-Layth for much of al-Mu'tamid's reign. In 271h 'Amr b. al-Layth was publicly cursed in the mosques and deprived of all the governorships which the caliph had reluctantly been obliged to grant him, while a combined Abbasid and Dulafid army took to the field against him. Their joint forces drove 'Amr b. al-Layth out of Fars and back to Kirman, but they were unable to build on this success and after inconclusive campaigning during 274h the caliphal forces retreated to Iraq, leaving Fars once again in the hands of the Saffarids. Negotiations between the two sides ended in 275h with 'Amr reinstated as Governor of Fars, Kirman, Sistan and Khurasan, for which he undertook to deliver ten million dirhams per annum to al-Mu'tamid in tax revenue.







31

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

Dinar, Harran 288h

Obverse margin: decade written correctly as thamanin

Weight: 4.26g

Reference: Bernardi 211Hj

Good very fine, rare £1,000-1,500







32

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

Dinar, Harran 288h

Obverse margin: decade reads thaman, 'eight,' instead of thamanin, 'eighty.'

Weight: 3.75g

Reference: Bernardi 211Hj

Almost extremely fine, rare

£1,000-1,500









ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

**Dinar, Halab 288h** Weight: 4.06g

Reference: Bernardi 211Gb

Traces of deposit, good very fine and rare

£2,000-2,500





34

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

Dinar, al-Rafiqa 283h

Obverse field: large pellet below

Weight: 4.10g

Reference: Bernardi 211Hn

Wavy flan and marks on rim, almost very fine

£700-1,000









35

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

Dinar, al-Rafiqa 289h

Obverse field: small pellets above and below

Weight: 2.44g

Reference: cf Bernardi 211Hn (date not listed)

Pinmarks in field and some small weak areas in margins, generally about very fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished £2,000-2,500

Dinars of this mint and date are known for al-Muktafi, who became caliph later in 289h, but this appears to be the first specimen issued in the name of al-Mu'tadid to be published.





ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h) Dinar, Madinat al-Salam 279h

Weight: 4.21g

Reference: cf Bernardi 211Jh (date not listed)

Good very fine and very rare, the date apparently unpublished

£700-1,000

Struck during the latter part of the year 279h, when al-Mu'tadid had become caliph following al-Mu'tamid's death.









37

ABBASID, AL-MU'TADID (279-289h)

**Dinar**, al-Mawsil 284h Weight: 4.16g

Reference: cf Bernardi 211Hf RRR (this date not listed)

Slightly wavy flan, otherwise good very fine and excessively rare, apparently unpublished

£7,000-10,000

Al-Mawsil is a very rare mint for Abbasid gold, and this date appears to be unrecorded to Bernardi.







38

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, al-Basra 294h Weight: 4.43g

References: Bernardi 226Je = Artuk 411

Almost extremely fine and extremely rare

£2,000-2,500







ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, Halab 289h Weight: 4.21g

Reference: Bernardi 226Gb, citing a single example of this mint and date

Some double-striking, about very fine and extremely rare

£2,500-3,000







40

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, Ra's al-'Ayn 289h

Weight: 4.23g

Reference: Bernardi 226Hl, citing a single example of this mint and date

Some staining, otherwise very fine or better and extremely rare

£3,500-4,000







41

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, Harran 290h

Weight: 3.67g

Reference: Bernardi 226Hj

Almost extremely fine and rare

£1,200-1,500







ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

Dinar, al-Rafiqa 291h

Obverse field: citing Wali al-dawla below

Weight: 4.12g

Reference: Bernardi 228Hn RRR, citing a single example of this mint and date

Good very fine and very rare

£1,500-2,000







43

ABBASID, AL-MUKTAFI (289-295h)

**Dirham, Tiflis 294h** Weight: 3.77g

References: Pakhomov p.41; Ties. 2197

A typically crude striking, about very fine for issue and very rare

£700-1,000







44

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Dinar, Barda'a 318h

Obverse field: legends in four lines, two horizontal bars above and one below Reverse field: bar below Muhammad and single bar each side of central point

Weight: 4.33g

References: Bernardi 242Kf; Vardanyan 2013, 96

Minor weakness in margins, very fine to good very fine and rare

£1,500-2,000







ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Dinar, Ardabil 316h

Obverse field: legends in four lines

Weight: 3.73g

Reference: Vardanyan 2013, 89 (citing a single specimen); Bernardi -

*Very fine to good very fine and of the highest rarity* 

£7,000-10,000

This dinar dates from the brief period between the death of Yusuf b. Diwdad at the end of 315h and the official appointment of his successor, al-Fath b. al-Afshin, as governor of Armenia in the following year. Dinars of this mint and date bearing al-Fath b. al-Afshin's own name are also known (Vardanyan 90; Bernardi 253Ka).

Before the discovery of this specimen, the only recorded Abbasid dinar of this mint and date seems to have been the single specimen published by Vasmer in 1927. This coin apparently has an isolated letter ha below the reverse field, which Vardanyan speculated might be the final letter of al-Fath. The present coin does not bear this letter, and while it may perhaps have been struck under al-Fath's authority as Vardanyan suggests, there is nothing to suggest this in its legends which are unimpeachably Abbasid.







46

ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Dinar, al-Rahba 302h Weight: 3.72g

Reference: Unpublished (cf Bernardi type 242 for legends)

Extremely fine and apparently unique

£12,000-15,000

This is the only published dinar of al-Muqtadir struck at the very rare mint of al-Rahba. Bernardi knew of no dinars from this mint dated later than 295h, the final year of al-Muktafi's reign.









ABBASID, AL-MUQTADIR (295-320h)

Dinar, Mah al-Kufa 296h

Weight: 4.17g

Reference: cf Bernardi 237Mr (date not listed)

Scrape on obverse, some weak striking in margins, very fine or better and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished £2,500-3,000





48

ABBASID, AL-RADI (322-329h)

**Dinar, Filastin 323h** Weight: 3.41g

References: Bernardi 285Gn; Bacharach 31

A crude striking with some flatness, fine overall and rare

£800-1,200









49

**ABBASID**, AL-MUTI (334-363h)

**Dinar, Surdud 341h**Weight: 2.78g
Reference: SICA 10, 187

Softly struck, good very fine and extremely rare

£3,000-4,000







50

UMAYYAD OF SPAIN, 'ABD AL-RAHMAN III (300-350h)

Dinar, al-Andalus 321h

Weight: 4.17g Reference: CUS 201

Almost extremely fine £1,400-1,600





'ABBADID, 'ABBAD B. MUHAMMAD, AL-MU'TADID (433-461h)

Dinar, al-Andalus 444h

Obverse field: al-Hajib || Ismaʻil above and below Reverse field: al-Muʻtadid || billah above and below

Weight: 3.86g

Reference: Prieto 397l, 'ejemplar único'

Some die rust, edge filed, about very fine and very rare

£600-800





 $5^2$ 

'ABBADID, 'ABBAD B. MUHAMMAD, AL-MU'TADID (433-461h)

Dinar, al-Andalus 456h

Obverse field: al-Zafir || al-Mu'ayyad billah above and below

Reverse field: al-Mu'tadid || billah above and below

Weight: 3.49g Reference: Prieto 400a

Minor edge marks, very fine to good very fine and rare

£700-1,000



53

'ABBADID, ABU'L-QASIM MUHAMMAD B. 'ABBAD, AL-MU'TAMID (461-484h)

Dinar, Madinat Ishbiliya (Seville) 474h

Obverse field: al-Rashid below

Reverse field: al-Mu'tamid 'ala-'llah || al-Mu'ayyad bi-nasr Allah

Weight: 4.16g

Reference: Prieto 412e, 'ejemplar único'

Very fine to good very fine and very rare

£800-1,200







54

KINGS OF MERTOLA AND SILVES, AHMAD B. QASI (fl. 539-546h)

Qirat, Martola, undated

Obverse: three-line inscription within square Reverse: mint-name at end of fourth line

Weight: 1.00g

Reference: Gomes 01.04

Better than very fine and rare

£500-800







KINGS OF MERTOLA AND SILVES, SIDRAY B. WAZIR (546-552h)

Qirat, Shilb (Silves), undated

Obverse: ibn Wazir in third line Reverse: mint-name Shilb in fifth line

Weight: 0.81g

Reference: Gomes 03.02, 'Muito rara'

Very fine to good very fine, very rare

£700-1,000







56

ALMORAVID, 'ALI B. YUSUF (500-537h) Dinar, al-Jazira (Algeciras) 508h

Weight: 4.02g Reference: Hazard 232

About extremely fine, rare

£1,000-1,500









57

ALMORAVID, 'ALI B. YUSUF (500-537h)

Dinar, Ishbiliya (Seville) 520h

Weight: 3.93g Reference: Hazard 219

Better than very fine £500-800







AGHLABID, ZIYADAT ALLAH III (249-250h)

Dinar, without mint-name (struck at Qayrawan), 249h

 $Reverse \ field: \quad \textit{Ghalib} \mid \textit{Muhammad} \mid \textit{rasul} \mid \textit{Allah} \mid \textit{Ziyadat} \ \textit{Allah}$ 

Weight: 4.22g

References: Bernardi 133; Album T445 RRR; cf Baldwin's of St James's auction 4, 9 May 2017, lot 330

Edge scrape and minor marks, otherwise almost very fine and excessively rare

£2,500-3,000

Dinars of the short-lived ruler Ziyadat Allah II are among the greatest rarities of the Aghlabid series. Al-'Ush knew of only one gold dinar issued in his name, dated 250h, and Bernardi records a single specimen dated 249h.







59

TULUNID, KHUMARAWAYH B. AHMAD (270-282h)

Dirham, Halab 281h

Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad | rasul | Allah | al-Mu'tadid billah | Khumarawayh b. Ahmad

Weight: 3.82g

Reference: cf Grabar 66 for a gold dinar with similar legends

Good fine and of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished

£500-800

This appears to be the only known Tulunid silver coin from the important city of Aleppo.







60

IKHSHIDID, MUHAMMAD B. TUGHJ (323-334h)

Donative half-dirham, Misr, undated

Obverse: Tamga with name Muhammad below; bismillah duriba hadha al-dirham bi-Misr around

Reverse: name of caliph in three lines; *kalima* around

Weight: 2.23g

References: Album A676 RRR; cf Bacharach 215 [a full dirham of this type];

cf ICA 12, 25 April 2007, lot 2111 [catalogued as Abbasid]

Dark surfaces, fair to fine and excessively rare

£700-1,000

Remarkably, the *tamga* on the obverse of the present coin is similar to those used on pre-Islamic copper coins of Samarqand, whose rulers then bore the title *Ikhshid*. As Bacharach observes, '*Muhammad ibn Tughi*'s use of this device on a presentation piece signals the strength of his memory of his Central Asian origins and the steps he would take to legitimize those associations.' (Bacharach p.30).







**FATIMID,** AL-QA'IM (322-334h)

Posthumous dinar, al-Qayrawan 336h

Weight: 4.18g Reference: Nicol 149

Almost very fine and very rare

£1,000-1,500

This is the latest date for Fatimid coins from the mint of Qayrawan, struck after the city was recaptured from the rebel al-Nukkari. Although al-Qa'im died in 334h his successor, al-Mansur, continued to strike coins in the name of his predecessor for some two years.

Qayrawan ceased to be active as a Fatimid mint after al-Mansur established a new capital at al-Mansuriya, begun in 335h and active as a mint-town from 338h onwards.







62

FATIMID, AL-MANSUR (334-341h)

Dinar, al-Mansuriya 339h

Weight: 4.15g Reference: Nicol 217

About very fine, scarce £600-800







63

FATIMID, AL-MUʻIZZ (341-365h)

**Dirham, Filastin 360h** *Weight:* 2.83g

Reference: cf Nicol 340 [dated 359h] and 341 [dated 361h]

Fair to fine with very clear mint and date, extremely rare and apparently an unrecorded date

£1,200-1,500







**FATIMID**, AL-'AZIZ (365-386h)

**Dinar, Filastin 373h**Weight: 4.08g
Reference: Nicol 675

Almost very fine, rare £700-1,000







65

 $\textbf{FATIMID}, \text{AL-MUSTANSIR} \ (427\text{-}487\text{h})$ 

**Dinar, 'Akka 463h**Weight: 3.92g
Reference: Nicol 2024

Minor marks, good very fine and very rare

£2,000-2,500







66

FATIMID, AL-MUSTANSIR (427-487h)

**Dinar, 'Akka 485h**Weight: 3.41g
Reference: Nicol 2038

Struck from rusty dies, very fine or better and very rare

£1,800-2,200







FATIMID, AL-MUSTA'LI (487-495h)

Dinar, 'Akka 488h

Obverse margin: pellet above d of duriba

Weight: 3.42g

References: Nicol 2408 = SICA 6, 739, same dies

Very fine and extremely rare [only one specimen recorded by Nicol]

£2,500-3,000







68

FATIMID, AL-MUNTAZAR (524-526h)

Dinar, Misr 525h

Obverse: Outer margin: mint and date

Inner margin: Abu'l-Qasim al-Muntazar bi-amr Allah Amir al-Mu'minin

In centre: *al-Imam* | *Muhammad* 

Weight: 4.42g Reference: Nicol 2590

Fine or better and very rare

£1,500-2,000

After the assassination of al-Amir in 524h, al-Hafiz was named as his successor. He was quickly imprisoned by the ambitious Kutayfat, the son of al-Amir's vizier, who took advantage of this situation to make a grasp for power. 'Kutayfat declared the Fatimid dynasty deposed and proclaimed the sovereignty of al-Mahdi, the twelfth imam of the Twelver Shi'is, whose reappearance had been expected since 260/874. As a result of this ingenious religio-political solution... [Kutayfat] acquired a unique position of power, ruling as a dictator responsible to no one either in theory or practice.' (Daftary, F., The Isma'ilis: Their History and Doctrines, Cambridge, 2007).

On the present coin, al-Mahdi is called *al-Muntazar*, 'the Expected One'. Kutayfat struck coins in his name until he himself was deposed and executed in 526h.







69

**FATIMID**, AL-FA'IZ (549-555h)

Dinar, Misr 550h Weight: 3.73

*Reference:* Nicol 2674, citing two examples of this mint and date

Good very fine and rare

£700-1,000



**FATIMID,** AL-FA'IZ (549-555h)

**Dinar, Misr 555h**Weight: 4.37g
Reference: Nicol 2680

Good very fine and rare £700-1,000



71

**CRUSADERS**, UNCERTAIN PRINCIPALITY (TYRE?) **Gold bezant, imitating a Fatimid dinar of al-Amir** 

Weight: 3.89g

Reference: Balog/Yvon 26a

Good very fine and rare £700-1,000

These imitations of Fatimid dinars are struck in good gold, and exhibit a distinctive style of calligraphy which is markedly different from those produced at Acre and Jerusalem.









72

### UNCERTAIN ISSUER Lead personal seal

Obverse: Nimbate bust facing, bare-headed and holding sceptre

Reverse: Cross pattée dividing middle word of three-line inscription, possibly billah | al-matran | yathiq

Weight: 6.95g

Reference: cf Morton & Eden auction 82, 20 October 2016, lot 80.

Good fine and very rare £700-1,000

The word on the reverse, tentatively read here as *al-matran*, 'bishop', appears to be the same as that on the second line of the piece sold in these rooms on 20 October 2016. The word was there read as *al-marzuban*, and interpreted as a personal name.



73

AYYUBID, AL-KAMIL I (615-635h)

**Dinar, Misr 623h**Weight: 6.9

Weight: 6.99g Reference: Balog 383

About extremely fine and rare

£800-1,200



## MUTAWAKKILITE IMAMS OF THE YEMEN, AHMAD B. YAHYA (1367-1381h)

Gold riyal Ahmadi or 4-sovereigns, Dar al-Khilafa San'a 1373h

Reverse: value '4' punched above swords

Weight: 31.91g

Reference: KM G17.1 (only listed for 1371h and 1372h)

Rim marked at top and bottom (probably where a mount has been fixed in the past), otherwise very fine or better and very rare £1,500-2,000







75

## HAMDANID, NASIR AL-DAWLA AND SAYF AL-DAWLA (330-356h)

Dinar, al-Mawsil 337h

Obverse field: letter sin | la ilaha illa Allah | wahdahu la sharik lahu | Sayf al-dawla | Abu'l-Hasan

Reverse field: lillah | Muhammad rasul Allah | sala Allah 'alayhi wa salam | al-Muti' lillah | Nasir al-dawla | Abu

Muhammad | Ibriz

Weight: 2.10g

References: Album 747; Bikhazi –

Evenly clipped, about very fine and extremely rare

£2,000-3,000

Bikhazi knew of no Hamdanid gold coins from the important mint of Mosul.







76

## **BURID, TEMP ABAQ (534-549h)**

### Quarter-dinar, mint and date off flan

Obverse: In inner margin: 'ayad al-din Sanjar wa Mas 'ud

*Reverse:* In centre: citing the Abbasid caliph as *al-Imam al-Muqtafi* 

Weight: 1.14g

Reference: Album N784

 $Good\ very\ fine\ and\ extremely\ rare$ 

£700-1,000

Abaq was the last of the Burid atabegs of Damascus, and came to power in 534h – the year this coin was issued. His influence evidently extended as far as Busra (almost 100 miles south of Damascus), where he is known to have improved the city's defences in anticipation of a Crusader assault. He was finally expelled from Damascus by Nur al-Din Zangi in 549h. Although a few extremely rare full dinars carry Abaq's name, his fractional dinars do not; they cite only the two Great Seljuq rulers, Sanjar and Mas'ud.







77 **SELJUQ OF RUM**, GHIYATH AL-DIN KAYKHUSRAW II (634-643h)

Dinar, Qunya 635h Weight: 4.48g

References: Album 1215; Broome 234

Some die rust, almost extremely fine, rare

£2,800-3,200



78

**OTTOMAN**, MEHMED V (1327-1336h / AD1909-1918)

Bronze medal, 64.8mm, commemorating the visit of Kaiser Wilhelm II to Constantinople, 1335h/AD1917

Obverse: Toughra with Turkish legend and date around

German Imperial eagle with German legend and date around Reverse:

Weight: 107.92g

References: Erüreten p.330; Pere 1149 [in silver]

Fields lightly tooled and with some surface and edge marks, otherwise good very fine and rare

£800-1,200

According to Erüreten only two gold, 150 silver and 200 bronze examples of this rare medal were produced.



### **OTTOMAN**

## A gold religious talisman or amulet, probably 12/18th century

Of teardrop form, with a central medallion surrounded by four concentric rings divided into nineteen cells:

Outer margin: al-malik - al-'azim - al-jabbar - al-mutakabbir - al-muhaymin - al-qahhar - al-'ali - al-kabir - al-

mutaʻali — al-qadir — al-muqtadir — al-hakam — al-ʻadil — al-hasib — al-halim — al-ʻaziz — al-khabir —

al-mudhil – al-mustaqim

Third margin: (in individual letters): bismillah al-rahman al-rahim

Second margin: (in individual letters): fard - hay - qayyum - hakam - 'adl - quddus

Inner margin: (in individual letters): alif, waw, mim, kaf, alif, nun, mim, ya, ta, alif, fa, alif, ya, ya, nun, alif, ha

(undeciphered)

In centre: (unread) Weight: 9.58g

*Dimensions (max):* 52.8 x 47.0mm;

Reference: cf Arabic and Persian Seals and Amulets in the British Museum A135, for a piece with similar legends

Hairline split, and two or three old repairs, very fine overall and a rare and unusual piece

£1,200-1,500







80

#### HARTHAMID, RAFI' B. HARTHAMA (268-283h)

#### Dinar, al-Muhammadiya 278h

Obverse margin: Qur'an xxx, 4-5

Obverse field: bi'l-sana | lillah al-qudra wa'l-azama | wa minhu al-sa'ada wa'l-nima | al-Mansur Rafi'ibn Harthama

| wa'l-baha

Reverse margin: Qur'an xlviii, 1-2, 'We have indeed granted you a manifest victory, so God may pardon you your sins of the

past and the future and may perfect His blessing upon you.'

Reverse field: bi'l-barakat | la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | al-Mu'tamid 'ala Allah | al-Mu 'tadid

billah | wa'l-ghabta

Weight: 4.23g

References: Bernardi 208Mh, citing a single specimen; Miles, Rayy -

Good very fine, apparently the second published Harthamid gold dinar and so of the highest rarity £8,000-12,000

Rafi' b. Harthama was an Iranian military commander who played a prominent role in the complex political and military history of Iran during the second part of the third century Hijri. Initially in the service of the Tahirids, during the 260s he fought with Ahmad al-Khujistani in the latter's struggles for supremacy with the Saffarids. When the caliph al-Mu'tamid stripped the Saffarids of their governorships a few year later, Rafi' was appointed governor of Khurasan and in this capacity campaigned successfully against the 'Alids of Tabaristan under Muhammad b. Zayd, whom Rafi' forced to retreat into the mountains of Daylam. Rafi' probably entered Rayy in the year before this coin was struck and rebuilt its citadel in 278h, but he himself was forced to leave again in the following year.

It has been suggested that the Qur'anic verse in the reverse margin was chosen to mark the conclusion of Rafi'b.Harthama's successful campaigns against Muhammad b. Zayd.



#### DULAFID, AHMAD B. 'ABD AL-'AZIZ (265-280h)

#### Donative double-dirham with gilded border, Mah al-Basra 272h

Obverse: below field: al-Nasir li-din Allah | al-Muwaffaq billah | Ahmad b. 'Abd al-'Aziz

*Reverse:* below field: *Dhu'l-wizaratayn* 

Weight: 5.25g

Reference: cf Vardanyan 7 (a standard dirham of this mint and date)

Traces of mounting, otherwise very fine to good very fine and excessively rare

£1,000-1,200

'Abd al-'Aziz was still loyal to the Abbasid caliph when this handsome donative coin was produced, and the legends accordingly acknowledge al-Muwaffaq with his title *al-Nasir li-din Allah*, which he received after suppressing the Zanj rebellion in 270h. For an Abbasid donative double-dirham struck at Surra man ra'a in 245h, also with gilding, see Sotheby's, 25 May 2000, lot 377 (where illustrated on front cover).







82

#### GREAT MONGOLS, CHINGIZ KHAN (603-624h)

## Dinar, Bukhara 62x

Obverse field: Bukhara | la ilaha illa | Allah Muhammad | rasul Allah

Reverse field: Jinkiz Khan | al-'adil | al-a'azam

Weight: 4.39g

References: SNAT XVa, 267; cf SARC auction 32 13 September 2018, lot 565

Flan crease, almost very fine and extremely rare

£3,000-4,000

The unit of the date is not clear, but may be '3' or '4'.









83

### GREAT MONGOLS, TEMP. ÖGEDEI (624-639h)

## Dinar, Astarabad 629h

Obverse field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad rasul Allah | 'Ali wali Allah | bi-Astarabad Reverse field: al-Khaqan | al-'adil | al-a'azam, with duriba – Astarabad to right and above

Weight: 4.16g

Reference: cf SARC auction 21, 15 January 2015, lot 21

Centres weakly struck but mint and date extremely sharp, good very fine for issue and very rare

£1,500-2,000









ILKHANID, ULJAYTU (703-716h)

#### Presentation heavy dinar, Madinat al-Salam Baghdad 709h

Obverse margin: Allahma salla 'ala Muhammad wa 'Ali wa Hasan wa Husayn wa 'Ali wa Muhammad wa Ja'far wa

Musa wa 'Ali wa Muhammad wa 'Ali wa Hasan wa Muhammad

Obverse field: la ilaha illa Allah | Muhammad | rasul Allah | 'Ali wali Allah

Reverse margin: ULJAYTU SULTAN (in Uyghur) | lillah al-amra min qabl wa min baʻd | duriba bi- Madinat al-Salam

Baghdad | sanat tisʻa wa sabʻa mi'at

Reverse field: duriba fi | ayyam dawla al-mawla | al-Sultan al-a'azam malik riqab | al-imam Uljaytu Sultan Ghiyath

al-dunya wa'l-din Khudabanda Muhammad | khallada Allah | mulkahu

Weight: 17.13g

References: cf Diler 365; Baldwin's Islamic Coin Auction 19, 'Classical Rarities of Islamic Coinage,' 25 April 2012, lot

141, same dies

Carefully struck on a specially-prepared, thick flan, almost extremely fine and extremely rare £30,000-40,000

GHIYATH Al-DIN ULJAYTU succeeded his brother Ghazan Mahmud as the eighth Ilkhanid ruler in 703h. Like his mother, he was originally baptized a Christian and named 'Nikola' in honour of Pope Nicholas IV, but later converted to Buddhism and finally to Islam. Uljaytu nevertheless married the sister of the Byzantine emperor Andronikos II and went to considerable lengths to maintain diplomatic relations with Christian Europe. His reign was marked by inconclusive campaigns into Gilan and also against Mamluk Egypt, where initial success was thwarted by supply problems and plague among his troops. Domestically, he faced continual discontent in Anatolia, where the brutality of Ilkhanid rule caused repeated insurrections, but he proved able to quell a revolt in Khurasan and restore peace there. He died at the age of 36, having fallen ill during a hunting expedition, and was succeeded in 716h by his son, Abu Sa'id.

After his conversion to Islam, Uljaytu initially espoused Sunni beliefs (first the Hanafi and later the Shafi'i school) before finally adopting Shi'ism. Numismatically, these events are reflected in his coinage: Uljaytu introduced the names of the four *rashidun* as a regular feature of the legends, and after adopting Shi'ism he also added the names of the Twelve Imams, as seen in the obverse margin here. This innovation was introduced in the year 709h, making this magnificent coin one of the first to bear Shi'ite legends.

The exceptional weight, beautiful calligraphy and careful striking of this coin suggest that it was made for presentation purposes rather than as a currency piece.



85

ILKHANID, ABU SA'ID (716-736h) Dinar, Shahr Firuzan 719h

Weight: 7.66g

References: Diler type 488 (unrecorded in gold)

Slightly wavy flan, very fine to good very fine and extremely rare

£700-1,000

Ex Spink auction 14012, 26 March 2014, lot 268.







**GOLDEN HORDE**, JANI BEG (742-758) **Dirham**, **Baghdad** 758h

Weight: 2.65g Reference: Album 2028

Very fine with decade and year of date extremely clear, very rare

£700-1,000

This very rare issue was in fact struck by the Jalayrid ruler Shaykh Uways I, who began placing his own name on the coinage in the year after this coin was produced.



87

SAFAVID, SULAYMAN I (1079-1105h)

Silver 5-abbasi or 20-shahi, Isfahan 1099h

Reverse field: ruler's name, mint and date engraved in naskhi script

Weight: 36.24g

References: KM 229; Album 2664

Traces of mounting on both sides (as is commonly encountered on these presentation coins), otherwise good very fine and well struck, rare  $\pounds$ 1,200-1,500

Ex John Work Garrett Collection, Part 1, Leu/NFA, 16 May 1984 lot 376 (offered with ticket).

Struck only at Isfahan, this variety of Sulayman's presentation coinage represents an improvement both in workmanship and silver fineness over earlier types.







MUGHAL, JAHANGIR (1014-1037h)

Restrike Gold muhur, Agra 1028h / regnal year 14 / year 6

Obverse: Leo standing right with left forepaw raised, radiant sun behind, regnal year to right

Reverse: citing Jahangir, date and year 6 at lower left

Weight: 10.93g

References cf KM 180.9 [an original striking] cf NGSA auction 7, 27 November 2012, lot 1908, same dies

A later striking, probably made in the nineteenth century, almost extremely fine

£700-1,000







89

MUGHAL, JAHANGIR (1014-1037h) AND NUR JAHAN

Gold muhur, Surat 1033h / regnal year 19

Obverse: citing Jahangir, date and regnal year below Reverse: citing Nur Jahan, mint below

Weight: 12.06g

References: cf KM 190.2 [this date not listed]; Friedberg 782; cf CNG auction 88, 14 September 2011, lot 1882

With double loop-mount attached, almost very fine and rare

£1,000-1,500







90

MUGHAL, JAHANGIR (1014-1037h) AND NUR JAHAN

Gold muhur, Agra 1034h / regnal year 20

Obverse: citing Jahangir, regnal year above and date below

Reverse: citing Nur Jahan, mint below

Weight: 10.60g

References: cf KM 168.1 [a rupee of this type]; cf Triton auction XVI, 9 January 2013, lot 1441

Drill-mark on rim and also in obverse field at 8 o'clock, ex-jewellery with surfaces characteristic of contact wear and with mount-mark above reverse field, otherwise very fine and very rare
£1,000-1,500







#### GREAT MONGOLS, TEMP OGEDEI (624-639h)

A brass octagonal coin die, probably for anonymous dinars of Astarabad

In field: Astarabad | al-Khaqan | al-'Adil | al-A'azam

Dimensions: 39.5mm (maximum, from point to point) x 18.2mm

Good very fine and extremely rare

£2,000-3,000

This extremely rare die allows the artistry of the Mongol engravers to be fully appreciated, something which is sadly often obscured by the poor striking of their coins.







92

#### CHAGHATAYID, TEMP. TARMASHRIN (726-734h)

A bronze obverse die for anonymous silver dinars, type of Bukhara, c. 728-730h

In field: al-'adl wa'l-mulk | tamgha | tu'aman (see note)

Dimensions: 38mm x 14.8mm

*Reference:* cf Album 1992 for coins produced from dies of this type

Very fine and extremely rare

£1,500-2,000

The legend *al-'adl wa'l-mulk* is blundered on this die, which supports the view that it may be have been made to produce contemporary imitations. It may be noted, however, that officially produced Chaghatayid coins were also poorly made and sometimes exhibit spelling errors.







QAJAR, FATH 'ALI SHAH (1212-1250h) A brass reverse die, Mashhad-i Muqaddas 1223h

Dimensions: 25.1mm x 18mm

Reference: cf Album 2864 for coins produced from dies of this type

Good very fine and rare £600-800

### **END OF FIRST SESSION**

#### COINS OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD

#### **SESSION B**

#### Thursday 24 October 2019, starting at 2.30 pm



10

**Arab-Sasanian, 'Abdallah b. 'Amir,** drachm, DAP (Fasa) 43YE, 3.69g (cf SCC 31, mint-name as 'DP'), very fine and scarce £120-150



102

**Arab-Sasanian, Ziyad b. Abi Sufyan,** drachm, DA (Darabjird) 43YE, 2.78g (SICA 1, 239ff), evenly clipped, good fine and scarce £80-120



103

**Arab-Sasanian, 'Ubaydallah b. Ziyad**, drachm, AYRAN (Hulwan?) PYE 30 (=61/2h), 3.75g (SICA 1, 44), good very fine and rare £300-400



104

**Arab-Sasanian, 'Ubaydallah b. Ziyad (54-64h),** drachm, SYWKAN (unidentified mint) 63h, 2.76g (SICA 1, 382), clipped, otherwise very fine, rare
£180-220



105

**Arab-Sasanian, Talha b. 'Abdallah (c. 64-66h),** drachm, SK (Sijistan) 65h, 3.11g (SICA 1, -; SCC -), clipped and cleaned, otherwise about very fine, the date extremely rare £300-400



**Arab-Sasanian, 'Abdallah b. al-Zubayr,** drachm, ST (Istakhr) 66h, 4.12g (SICA 1, 376), about extremely fine £100-150



**Arab-Sasanian, 'Abdallah b. Khazim,** drachm, BBA (the camp mint) 67h, 2.77g (SCC 103), *clipped, very fine, scarce* £120-150



108 **Arab-Sasanian, Khalid b. 'Abdallah,** drachm, BYŠ (Bishapur) 73h, 3.76g (SICA 1, 191), some staining, almost very fine £150-200



**Arab-Sasanian, Qatari b. al-Fuja'a,** drachm, BYŠ (Bishapur) 75h, 2.50g (SICA 1, 193ff), heavily clipped, good fine and scarce £200-300



Arab-Sasanian, al-Hajjaj b. Yusuf, pashiz, facing bust with blundered legend to right, *rev.*, horse to right with two-line inscription above, 0.34g (Gyselen 62 *var.*), almost very fine and rare £150-200



111 **Arab-Sasanian**, pashiz, facing bust, *rev.*, four-line inscription, 2.33g (cf Gyselen 89), *obverse weak, fair/very fine* £80-120



**Arab-Sasanian**, anonymous pashiz, Sasanian bust right, *rev.*, warrior to right holding spear, 0.97g (Gyselen 109), *on a broad flan, almost very fine and rare*£150-200



113

**Arab-Byzantine**, fals, two figures type, 'Amman, one seated and one standing figure, *rev.*, large M, mint-name to left, 2.66g (Album 3526 RRR), *fine to good fine and rare*£300-500



114

**Arab-Byzantine**, 'Abd al-Malik b. Marwan, fals, unread mint, standing caliph, *rev.*, modified cross-on-steps with *wafin* to left and mintname to right, 2.93g (Goodwin p.79, fig. 36 = Walker p.41, Th.2, *same obverse die*), almost very fine and rare

£200-300

Walker and Goodwin have variously suggested that the mint-name, which is clearly written but hard to interpret, may be a blundered version of *al-Ladhiqiya* (Laodicea) or *Antakiya* (Antioch).



115

Arab-Byzantine, fals, Scythopolis, twin seated Imperial figures, SKV⊕O – ПОЛНС around, rev., large letter M with cross above and A below, АИИО – Ч II – NIKO to left, right and in exergue, 8.08g (SICA 1, 594), almost very fine £200-300



116

**Eastern Sistan Series, Anonymous, Khusraw II type**, drachm, SK (Sijistan), blundered date, *Allah wali 'awn* in obverse margin, *rev.*, plain, 3.86g (Album 76.1), *toned, good very fine* £150-200



117

**Abbasid Governors of Tabaristan, 'Umar b. al-'Ala,** hemidrachm, TPWRSTAN PYE 125, governor's name and patronymic in Pahlawi before bust and in Arabic in margin, 1.96g (Album 57; Malek 77), uncirculated with some brilliance, a scarce one-year type
£120-150

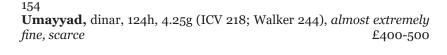














Umayyad, dinar, 128h, 4.26g (ICV 222; Walker 248), extremely fine, £500-600



156 Umayyad, dinar, 130h, 4.26g (ICV 224; Walker 250), minor marks on reverse, good very fine to almost extremely fine, scarce £600-800



Umayyad, dirham, Arminiya 95h, 2.88g (Klat 49), pin-marks in fields, almost extremely fine and toned £180-220



Umayyad, dirham, al-Bab 123h, 2.74g (Klat 150), very fine £180-220

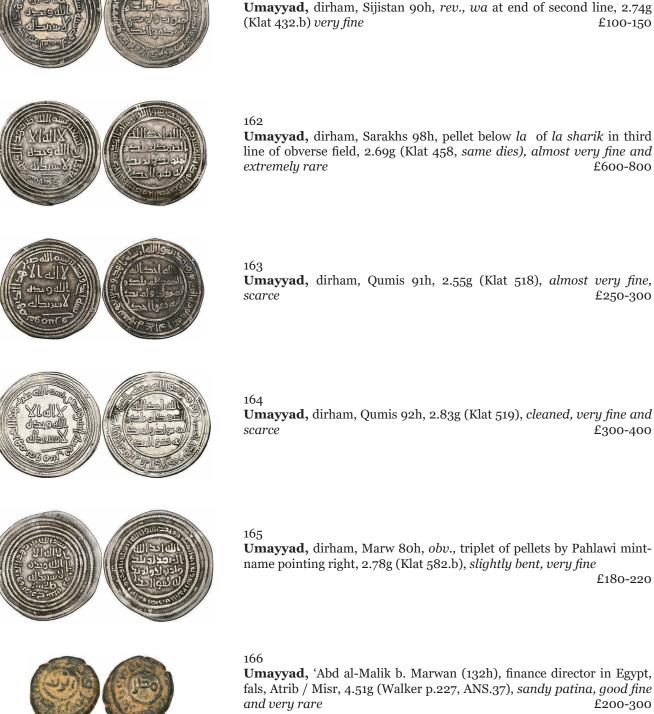


Umayyad, dirham, Junday Sabur 83h, 2.76g (Klat 237), some staining, good fine and rare £150-200



Umayyad, dirham, Sabur 81h, 2.70g (Klat 417.b), fine, scarce £150-200







Umayyad, fals, Bayt Jibrin (in Palestine), rev., variety with spelling errors in obverse legend, 4.13g (SNAT IVa 39, same obverse die), very fine and a rare variety £250-300



168 Umayyad, lead fals, Jurjan 112h, citing al-Walid b 'Abdallah, 2.56g (Album 202M RRR), almost very fine and very rare £150-200







Umayyad, square uniface lead weight, bismillah | mithqal | dinar, 2.96g, almost very fine £150-200

The weight is clearly light for a dinar, and the piece may have been modified to weigh dirhams (for which the present weight is almost exactly correct).



170

Umayyad, lead seal, four-line legend beginning shajarat | Filastin | [last two lines unread], 7.67g, almost very fine £200-300



Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 138h, 4.14g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), scratches both sides, very fine £150-200



Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 143h, 4.23g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), fields tooled, some edge marks, very fine to good very fine £150-200



Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 150h, 4.23g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), almost uncirculated £200-250



Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 150h, 4.25g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), edge marks, otherwise extremely fine £150-200

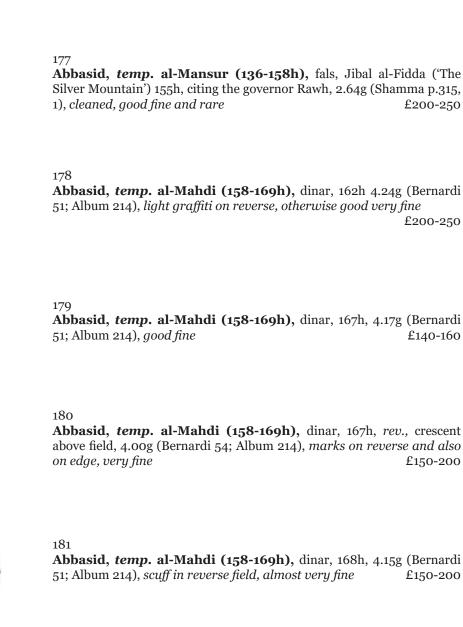


Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 153h, 4.26g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), very minor marks, extremely fine £200-250



Abbasid, temp. al-Mansur (136-158h), dinar, 156h, 3.95g (Bernardi 51; Album 212), evenly clipped, very fine £150-200









**Abbasid**, *temp.* al-Mahdi (158-169h), fals, Barda'a 159h, citing the governor *Yazid b*. *Usayd*, 3.82g (Vardanyan 248; Shamma p.230, 6), *fine and rare* 



Abbasid, al-Mahdi (158-169h), lead seal, three-line legend reading: barakat | al-Mahdi | amir al-mu'minin, 7.48g, some losses to legends, fair to fine £200-300



Abbasid, temp. al-Rashid, lead seal, mimma amr bihi | 'Ali b. al-Hajjaj | [unread], 23.83g, almost very fine and rare £300-500

According to al-Tabari, 'Ali b. al-Hajjaj al-Khuza'i was appointed governor of Jurjan in the year 176. He was also Harun al-Rashid's chief of police at one time (al-Tabari 613).





Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dinar, 205h, 4.27g (Bernardi £200-250



Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, Madinat Arran 216h, rev., citing Khalid b. Yazid and Ibrahim b. 'Attab, 3.07g (Vardanyan 174; Lowick 856), minor staining on obverse, good very fine and rare £200-300



Abbasid, temp. al-Ma'mun (194-218h), dirham, al-Rafiqa 198h, rev., citing Da'ud b. 'Isa, 3.05g (cf Lowick 645 [199h]), almost extremely fine and extremely rare, apparently an unrecorded date £400-600



£300-400

£200-250

£120-150

£150-200

£200-250

£200-250

£150-200

Abbasid, al-Mu'tamid (256-279h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 278h, obv., citing the future caliph al-Mu'tadid billah, 4.35g (Bernardi 187Jh), pinmarks in obverse field, otherwise very fine and rare £500-700



203 **Abbasid, al-Mu'tamid (256-279h),** sudaysi, San'a 268h, 0.58g (Album 1055A RR), very fine and rare £150-200



**Abbasid, al-Mu'tadid (279-289h),** dinar, Harran 288h, 3.50g (Bernardi 211Hj), matte surfaces, good very fine and rare £1,000-1,500



Abbasid, al-Mu'tadid (279-289h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 284h, 4.04g (Bernardi 211Jh RR), very fine and very rare, only two specimens recorded by Bernardi £700-1,000



206 **Abbasid, al-Muktafi (289-295h),** dinar, al-Rafiqa 290h, 1.79g (Bernardi 226Hn), some staining, otherwise very fine to good very fine £700-1,000



**Abbasid, al-Muktafi (289-295h),** dinar, al-Rafiqa 292h, *obv.*, pellets above and below field, 3.88g (Bernardi 226Hn), *some staining, pinmarks in field, otherwise very fine and rare* £700-1,000



208 **Abbasid, al-Muktafi (289-295h),** dinar, Madinat al-Salam 290h, 4.57g (Bernardi 226Jh), some deposit, otherwise extremely fine £250-300



**Abbasid**, **al-Muktafi (289-295h)**, dinar, Madinat al-Salam 295h, 4.16g (Bernardi 226Je), *good very fine and scarce* £400-600



**Abbasid, al-Muktafi (289-295h),** dinar, Misr 292h, 3.96g (Bernardi 226De), *extremely fine* £300-400



Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dinar, Suq al-Ahwaz 310h, 4.21g (Bernardi 242Nf), very fine to good very fine Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dinar, Qumm 317h, 3.99g (Bernardi 242Mn), fine to good fine, rare £500-700 Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dinar, Mah al-Kufa 310h, 4.09g (Bernardi 242Mr, citing a single example of this date), plugged, otherwise good very fine and extremely rare £400-500 Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dinar, Hamadhan 317h, 4.43g (Bernardi 242Mu), some weak striking, very fine to good very fine £400-600 Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), donative dirham with broad margins, Madinat al-Salam 304h, 3.53g (SCC 1544), good very fine and £500-700 Abbasid, al-Muqtadir (295-320h), dirham, al-Masisa 319h, 2.02g, cleaned, better than fine £150-200 Abbasid, al-Qahir (320-322h), dinar, Suq al-Ahwaz 321h, without name of heir, 4.32g (Bernardi 275Nf), almost extremely fine and scarce £250-300



219 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), dinar, Tustur min al-Ahwaz 323h, 3.80g (Bernardi 285Ne), almost very fine £150-200 220 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), dinar, Tustur min al-Ahwaz 323h, 3.85g (Bernardi 285Ne), good fine 221 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), heavy dinar, Tustur min al-Ahwaz 324h, obv., pellets above and below field, 6.65g (Bernardi 285Ne), good very fine and rare of this weight £300-400 222 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), heavy dinar, Tustur min al-Ahwaz 324h, obv., pellet above field, rev., pellet below field, 5.00g (Bernardi 285Ne), almost extremely fine £250-300 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), dinar, Qumm 327h, 3.51g (Bernardi 285Mn), centres a little weak, very fine to good very fine and scarce £250-300 Abbasid, al-Radi (322-329h), heavy dirham, al-Basra 322h, 7.52g (cf SICA 4, 215) some staining, fine and very rare of this weight £250-300 This exceptionally heavy coin is struck to the weight of approximately three dirhams.

Abbasid, al-Nasir (575-622h), dinar, Madinat al-Salam 620h, 4.66g (BMC 493), weakly struck but with negligible circulation wear, good very fine overall £300-400

**Aghlabid**, lead seal, with four-line inscription including date (264h) on third and fourth lines, 17.27g, very fine £150-200













**Bahri Mamluk, 'Ali (655-657h),** dinar, al-Iskandariya, date off flan, without the name of the Abbasid caliph al-Musta'sim (d. 656h) and therefore almost certainly dated 657h, 5.8og (Balog 16), margins weakly struck, good very fine and rare £400-600



269

**Bahri Mamluk, Hasan, First Reign (748-752h),** dinar, al-Qahira 749h, 5.69g (Balog 317), better than very fine £200-250



270

**Burji Mamluk, Barsbay (825-841h),** ashrafi, Dimashq 829h, 3.39g (cf Balog 713), scrapes both sides, good fine and rare £150-200



271

**Burji Mamluk, Tumanbay I (906h),** ashrafi, mint and date not visible, 3.37g (Balog 867), some weakness in centres on both sides, otherwise very fine and rare
£400-600



272

**Sulayhid**, *temp*. 'Arwa bint Ahmad (484-532h), half-dinars (2), Dhu Jibla 487h and with mint and date unclear, 1.18, 1.14g (Album 1078.1), *very fine* (2) £140-160



279

**Zuray'id, anonymous (after 506h),** dinar, 'Adan 515h, in the name of al-Mukarram, 2.42g (Bikhazi 248; Album 1079), *very fine* £140-160

Ex Spink auction 1009, 25 March 2010, lot 442.



274

**Zuray'id, anonymous (after 506h),** dinar, 'Adan 522h, in the name of al-Mukarram, 2.39g (Bikhazi 252; Album 1079), slightly ragged flan, very fine £140-160

Ex Spink auction 14038, 2 December 2014, lot 340.



**Zuray'id, anonymous (after 506h),** dinar, 'Adan 529h, *obv.*, letter 'ayn above field, 2.39g (Album 1079), slightly ragged edge, very fine and scarce £150-200



276

**Zuray'id, Muhammad b. Saba' (c. 532-560h)**, dinar, 'Adan [5]36h, citing al-Mukarram and the Fatimid al-Amir, 2.40g (Album 1080.1), ragged edge, good fine and rare
£180-220



277

**Rasulid**, **al-Mansur 'Umar b. 'Ali (634-647h)**, dirham, Mabyan 636h, 2.06g (Album 1100), *flan split, good very fine and rare* £200-300

The mint-name on this piece was first read as *Mina*, but *Mabyan* is now generally accepted as the correct reading.



278

Kingdom of Sa'udi Arabia, 'Abd al-'Aziz b. Sa'ud (1344-1373h/ AD 1926-1953), guinea, 1370h, 8.00g (KM 36; Friedberg 1), about uncirculated £250-300



279

Kingdom of Saʻudi Arabia, 'Abd al-'Aziz b. Saʻud (1344-1373h/AD 1926-1953), guinea, 1370h, 8.02g (KM 36; Friedberg 1), uncirculated £250-300

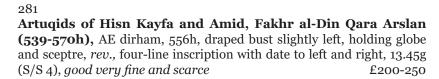


280

**United Arab Emirates,** gold proof 1,000 dirhams, 1976, commemorating the fifth anniversary of the UAE, *obv.*, bust of Sheikh Zayed b. Sultan al-Nahyan of Abu Dhabi, 40.08g (KM 13), *very minor marks, otherwise almost as issued, with original presentation case* £1,400-1,600







Artuqids of Hisn Kayfa and Amid, Fakhr al-Din Qara Arslan (539-570h), AE dirham, 560h, head facing slightly left, rev., four-line inscription with date to left and right, 12.40g (S/S 6), almost extremely fine £250-350

283 Artugids of Hisn Kayfa and Amid, Nur al-Din Muhammad (571-581h), AE dirham, al-Hisn 578h, Seleucid-style bust to right, mint and date around, rev., six-line inscription with 'curse' legend to left and right, reading: 'Cursed be he who changes this dirham,' 17.74g (S/S 11), good

very fine with a handsome deep green patina

Artuqids of Mardin, Husam al-Din Yuluq Arslan (580-597h), dirham, 583h, diademed head facing, rev., legend within star, mint and

date in angles, 11.99g (S/S 33.4), good very fine £60-80

Zangids of Mosul, Outb al-Din Mawdud (544-564h), dinar, al-Mawsil 559h, rev., with tamgha in field above Muhammad rasul Allah, 3.49g (Album 1856 RR), very fine or better and well-struck for issue, rare

£400-600

Begteginid of Irbil, Kökburi b. 'Ali (563-630h), dinar, Irbil 600h, without name of overlord 2.90g (Album 1887.1), good very fine for issue and scarce £300-400

287

Begteginid of Irbil, Kökburi b. 'Ali (563-630h), dinar, Irbil 614h, citing the Ayyubid Abu Bakr I, 3.53g (Album 1887.2), very fine, rare £300-400

£250-350



**Lu'lu'id of Mosul, Rukn al-din Isma 'il (657-660h),** dinar, al-Mawsil 658h, citing the Ilkhanid ruler Möngke, *rev.*, with additional vertical religious legends in fields, 6.55g (Jafar 2009, 66; Album 1877.1 RR), *edge shaved, good very fine and rare* £350-400



280

**Ottoman, Süleyman I (926-974h),** sultani, Misr 941h, 3.53g (Artuk 1557; Pere -), some flat striking otherwise good very fine, scarce with the year of striking rather than the regnal year
£200-250



290

**Ottoman, Süleyman I (926-974h),** sultani, Misr 942h, 3.43g (Edhem 1027), very fine or better and scarce bearing the actual year of striking £160-180



201

**Ottoman, Murad III (982-1003h)**, dinar, Tilimsan 995h, 4.21g (Album 1331), toned, very fine, scarce £300-400



202

**Dulafid, Ahmad b. 'Abd al-'Aziz (265-280h),** dinar, Hamadhan 274h, 4.29g (Bernardi 202Mu RRR; Vardanyan 12), *fine, very rare* £600-800



293

**Samanid, Isma 'il b. Ahmad (279-295h),** dinar, Samarqand 282h, rev., Isma 'il below, 4.08g (Bernardi 221Qe RRR), buckled flan, very fine and a very rare one-year type
£250-300



294

**Samanid, Nasr II b. Ahmad (301-331h),** dinar, al-Muhammadiya 331h, *obv.*, with *nasr min lillah wa fath* | *qarib* below, *rev.*, letters *jim* and *ra* to right of field and annulet below, 4.36g (Bernardi 328Mh; Miles 171A), *minor marks on obverse, about very fine and scarce* £180-220

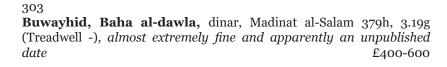


295 Samanid, Nasr b. Ahmad (301-331h), dinar, Naysabur 322h, letter mim above obverse field and with die-engraver's signature al-Harb in margin at 9 o'clock, rev., citing the caliph al-Qahir, 4.09g (Bernardi 282Pj), about extremely fine £200-250 296 Su'lukid, Muhammad b. 'Ali (315-316h), dinar, al-Muhammadiya 315h, obv., triplet of pellets above and star below, rev., letter ha to right of lillah at top of field, 4.36g (Bernardi 263Mh; Miles, Rayy 159A), very fine to good very fine £200-250 Buwayhid, 'Ali b. Buwayh, dirham, Siraf 326h, 2.91g (Treadwell Si326 var., without extra-marginal inscriptions), flan split and slight bend, good very fine and very rare £100-150 Buwayhid, Rukn al-dawla, dinar, al-Muhammadiya 340h, 3.46g (Treadwell Mu34oG), eight triplets of annulets in outer margins on both sides, very fine £250-300 299 Buwayhid, 'Adud al-dawla, dinar, Suq al-Ahwaz 368h, 6.78g (Treadwell Su368G), good very fine and of exceptional weight, rare £400-500 Buwayhid, 'Adud al-dawla, dinar, al-Basra 371h, 4.44g (Treadwell Ba371G), about extremely fine £250-300

Buwayhid, Abu'l-Fawaris, dinar, Suq al-Ahwaz 375h, 4.56g (cf Treadwell Su375 [a silver coin with similar legends]), centres a little weak, otherwise good very fine and apparently unpublished £250-300

Buwayhid, Fakhr al-dawla, dirham, 'Uman 387h, 3.30g (Treadwell Um387), fine to good fine £150-200







304 Buwayhid, Abu Kalijar, dinar, Shiraz 435h, 4.72g (Treadwell Sh435G), very fine, rare £400-600



305 Buwayhid, al-Rahim Abu Nasr (Khusraw Firuz), dinar, al-Ahwaz 445h, 3.96g (Treadwell Ah445G), light bend, better than very fine and £250-300 rare



306 Kakwayhid, Muhammad b. Dushmanzar (398-433h), dinar, Isbahan 427h, 2.68g (Album 1590), clipped, otherwise good very fine and £300-400 rare



Ghaznavid, Mahmud (389-421h), multiple dirham, Andaraba 389h, citing Bilgategin, obv., sword below field, 12.82g (SNAT XIVc, 214-217, same dies), usual striking weakness but about extremely fine for issue, scarce £100-150

Obverse illustrated



Great Seljuq, Tughril Beg (428-455h), dinar, Naysabur 434h, 4.55g (Alptekin 3), edge marks and some scratches in field, otherwise better than very fine £250-300



Great Seljuq, Tughril Beg (428-455h), dinar, Isbahan 448h, 4.01g (Alptekin 37), almost very fine £200-250



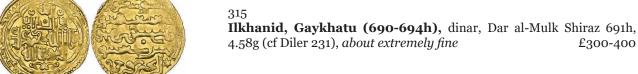
£200-250

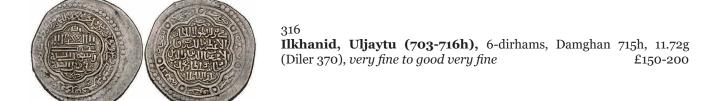
£250-300

£250-300

£300-400

£150-200



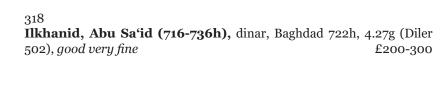




319

488), good very fine

502), good very fine



Ilkhanid, Abu Sa'id (716-736h), dinar, Baghdad 723h, 8.57g (Diler

Ilkhanid, Abu Sa'id (716-736h), dinar, Baghdad 720h, 9.70g (Diler

£350-400

£350-400



320 Ilkhanid, Abu Sa'id (716-736h), dinar, Bazar 731h, 5.83g (Diler 525), very fine £250-300



Ilkhanid, Abu Sa'id (716-736h), dinar, Sabzawar 732h, 6.67g (Diler 525; Album 2212), about very fine £250-300



Safavid, Isma 'il I (907-930h), 2-shahi, Tabriz 916h, 18.82g (Album 2575 RR), good fine and rare £200-300



**Durrani, Taimur Shah (1186-1207),** rupee, 'Umm al-Bilad Balkh 1204h / year 25, 11.09g (Album 3100 for type), *good very fine and a very rare mint* £150-200



324

**Sultans of Dehli, Muhammad b. Tughluq (725-752h),** gold tanka, Dehli 742h, 11.09g (GG D427), flan slightly bent, good very fine

£400-500



325

**Mughal**, a square gold amulet copying Akbar's gold coinage of Lahore, with stylised legends and blundered date, 5.67g, good very fine; and another silver amulet copying a coin of the Dehli Sultan Sher Shah Suri, good very fine (2)
£300-400

326

**Books:** Sylloge Numorum Arabicorum Tübingen, volumes XIVd (Ghazna/Kabul) and XIVb (Mittelasien II, including al-Shash), Berlin, 1995 and 1998, titles neatly pencilled on spines, minor marks on tan card covers, contents clean; and Retowski, O., Die Münzen der Gireï, reprinted Spink/Russian Numismatic Society, 1982, in very good condition (3)

£100-150

327

**Books, Auction Catalogues etc.:** Walker, J., *A Catalogue of the Muhammadan Coins in the British Museum, Volume I: Arab-Sasanian Coins*, London, 1967, pencil notes on fly leaf, otherwise in very good condition; Spengler, W. and W.G. Sayles, *Turkoman Figural Bronze Coins and their Iconography*, 2 volumes, Lodi, 1992 and 1996, in excellent condition and an indispensable reference for the series; Miles, G.C., *Contributions to Arabic Metrology*, parts I and II, New York 1958 and 1963, original tan covers, in good condition; Stephen Album, Fixed Price Lists, a complete set from 30-59 (February 1983 to May 1989), virtually as new; and a useful group of auction catalogues featuring Islamic coins, including Sotheby's, Morton & Eden, Baldwin's, Leu, Spink etc. (lot)

#### **END OF SALE**

#### **Conditions of Business for Buyers**

#### 1. Introduction

- (a) The contractual relationship of Morton & Eden Ltd. and Sellers with prospective Buyers is governed by:-
- (i) these Conditions of Business for Buyers;
- (ii) the Conditions of Business for Sellers displayed in the saleroom and available from Morton & Eden Ltd.;
- (iii) Morton & Eden Ltd.'s Authenticity Guarantee;
- (iv) any additional notices and terms printed in the sale catalogue, in each case as amended by any saleroom notice or auctioneer's announcement.
- (b) As auctioneer, Morton & Eden Ltd. acts as agent for the Seller. Occasionally, Morton & Eden Ltd. may own or have a financial interest in a lot.

#### 2. Definitions

- "Bidder" is any person making, attempting or considering making a bid, including Buyers:
- "Buyer" is the person who makes the highest bid or offer accepted by the auctioneer, including a Buyer's principal when bidding as agent;
- "Seller" is the person offering a lot for sale, including their agent, or executors; "M&E" means Morton & Eden Ltd.,
- "M&E" means Morton & Eden Ltd., auctioneers, Nash House, St George Street, London W1S 2FQ, company number 4198353.
- "Buyer's Expenses" are any costs or expenses due to Morton & Eden Ltd. from the Buyer;
- "Buyer's Premium" is the commission payable by the Buyer on the Hammer Price at the rates set out in the Important Information for Buyers;
- "Hammer Price" is the highest bid for the Property accepted by the auctioneer at the auction or the post auction sale price;
- "Purchase Price" is the Hammer Price plus applicable Buyer's Premium and Buyer's Expenses;
- "Reserve Price" (where applicable) is the minimum Hammer Price at which the Seller has agreed to sell a lot.

# The Buyer's Premium, Buyer's Expenses and Hammer Price are subject to VAT, where applicable.

#### 3. Examination of Lots

- (a) M&E's knowledge of lots is partly dependent on information provided by the Seller and M&E is unable to exercise exhaustive due diligence on each lot. Each lot is available for examination before sale. Bidders are responsible for carrying out examinations and research before sale to satisfy themselves over the condition of lots and accuracy of descriptions.
- (b) All oral and/or written information provided to Bidders relating to lots, including descriptions in the catalogue, condition reports or elsewhere are statements of M&E's opinion and not representations of fact. Estimates may not be relied on as a prediction of the selling price or value of the lot and may be revised from time to time at M&E's absolute discretion.

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- (a) M&E shall refund the Purchase Price to the Buyer in circumstances where it deems that the lot is a Counterfeit, subject to the terms of M&E's Authenticity Guarantee.
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- (iii) accepts responsibility to Bidders for acts or omissions (whether negligent or otherwise) by M&E in connection with the conduct of auctions or for any matter relating to the sale of any lot.
- (c) Without prejudice to Condition 4(b), any claim against M&E and/ or the Seller by a Bidder is limited to the Purchase Price for the relevant lot. Neither M&E nor the Seller shall be liable for any indirect or consequential losses
- (d) Nothing in Condition 4 shall exclude or limit the liability of M&E or the Seller for death or personal injury caused by the negligent acts or omissions of M&E or the Seller.

#### 5. Bidding at Auction

- (a) M&E has absolute discretion to refuse admission to the auction. Before sale, Bidders must complete a Registration Form and supply such information and references as M&E requires. Bidders are personally liable for their bid and are jointly and severally liable with their principal, if bidding as agent (in which case M&E's prior and express consent must be obtained).
- (b) M&E advises Bidders to attend the auction, but M&E will endeavour to execute absentee written bids provided that they are, in M&E's opinion, received in sufficient time and in legible form.
- (c) When available, written and telephone bidding is offered as a free service at the Bidder's risk and subject to M&E's other commitments; M&E is therefore not liable for failure to execute such bids. Telephone bidding may be recorded.

# 6. Import, Export and Copyright Restrictions

M&E and the Seller make no representations or warranties as to whether any lot is subject to import, export or copyright restrictions. It is the Buyer's sole responsibility to obtain any copyright clearance or any necessary import, export or other licence required by law, including licenses required under the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

#### 7. Conduct of the Auction

- (a) The auctioneer has discretion to refuse bids, withdraw or re-offer lots for sale (including after the fall of the hammer) if (s)he believes that there may be an error or dispute, and may also take such other action as (s)he reasonably deems necessary.
- (b) The auctioneer will commence and advance the bidding in such increments as (s)he considers appropriate and is entitled to place bids on the Seller's behalf up to the Reserve Price for the lot, where applicable.
- (c) Subject to Condition 7(a), the contract between the Buyer and the Seller is concluded on the striking of the auctioneer's hammer.
- (d) Any post-auction sale of lots shall incorporate these Conditions of Business.

#### 8. Payment and Collection

- (a) Unless otherwise agreed in advance, payment of the Purchase Price is due in pounds sterling immediately after the auction (the "Payment Date").
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- (c) The refusal of any licence or permit required by law, as outlined in Condition 6, shall not affect the Buyer's obligation to pay for the lot, as per Condition 8(a).
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- (e) All packing and handling of lots is at the Buyer's risk. M&E will not be liable for any acts or omissions of third party packers or shippers.

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Without prejudice to any rights that the Seller may have, if the Buyer without prior agreement fails to make payment for the lot within 5 working days of the auction, M&E may in its sole discretion exercise 1 or more of the following remedies:-

- (a) store the lot at its premises or elsewhere at the Buyer's sole risk and expense;
- (b) cancel the sale of the lot;
- (c) set off any amounts owed to the Buyer by M&E against any amounts owed to M&E by the Buyer for the lot;

- (d) reject future bids from the Buyer;
- (e) charge interest at 8% per annum above Lloyds TSB Bank plc Base Rate from the Payment Date to the date that the Purchase Price is received in cleared funds:
- (f) re-sell the lot by auction or privately, with estimates and reserves at M&E's discretion, in which case the Buyer will be liable for any shortfall between the original Purchase Price and the amount achieved on re-sale, including all costs incurred in such re-sale;
- (g) Exercise a lien over any Buyer's Property in M&E's possession, applying the sale proceeds to any amounts owed by the Buyer to M&E. M&E shall give the Buyer 14 days written notice before exercising such lien;
- (h) commence legal proceedings to recover the Purchase Price for the lot, plus interest and legal costs;
- (i) disclose the Buyer's details to the Seller to enable the Seller to commence legal proceedings.

#### 10. Failure to collect purchases

- (a) If the Buyer pays the Purchase Price but does not collect the lot within 20 working days of the auction, the lot will be stored at the Buyer's expense and risk at M&E's premises or in independent storage.
- (b) If a lot is paid for but uncollected within 6 months of the auction, following 60 days written notice to the Buyer, M&E will re-sell the lot by auction or privately, with estimates and reserves at M&E's discretion. The sale proceeds, less all M&E's costs, will be forfeited unless collected by the Buyer within 2 years of the original auction.

#### 11. Data Protection

- (a) M&E will use information supplied by Bidders or otherwise obtained lawfully by M&E for the provision of auction related services, client administration, marketing and as otherwise required by law.
- **(b)** By agreeing to these Conditions of Business, the Bidder agrees to the processing of their personal information and to the disclosure of such information to third

parties world-wide for the purposes outlined in Condition 11(a) and to Sellers as per Condition 9(i).

#### 12. Miscellaneous

- (a) All images of lots, catalogue descriptions and all other materials produced by M&E are the copyright of M&E.
- (b) These Conditions of Business are not assignable by any Buyer without M&E's prior written consent, but are binding on Bidders' successors, assigns and representatives.
- (c) The materials listed in Condition 1(a) set out the entire agreement between the parties.
- (d) If any part of these Conditions of Business be held unenforceable, the remaining parts shall remain in full force and effect.
- (e) These Conditions of Business shall be interpreted in accordance with English Law, under the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts, in favour of M&E.

#### Morton & Eden Ltd.'s Authenticity Guarantee

If Morton & Eden Ltd. sells an item of Property which is later shown to be a "Counterfeit", subject to the terms below Morton & Eden Ltd. will rescind the sale and refund the Buyer the total amount paid by the Buyer to Morton & Eden Ltd. for that Property, up to a maximum of the Purchase Price.

The Guarantee lasts for two (2) years after the date of the relevant auction, is for the benefit of the Buyer only and is nontransferable.

"Counterfeit" means an item of Property that in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion is an imitation created with the intent to deceive over the authorship, origin, date, age, period, culture or source, where the correct description of such matters is not included in the catalogue description for the Property.

Property shall not be considered Counterfeit solely because of any damage and/or restoration and/or modification work (including, but not limited to, traces of mounting, tooling or repatinating).

Please note that this Guarantee does not apply if either:-

- (i) the catalogue description was in accordance with the generally accepted opinions of scholars and experts at the date of the sale, or the catalogue description indicated that there was a conflict of such opinions; or
- (ii) the only method of establishing at the date of the sale that the item was a Counterfeit would have been by means of processes not then generally available or accepted, unreasonably expensive or impractical; or likely to have caused damage to or loss in value to the Property (in Morton & Eden Ltd.'s reasonable opinion); or
- (iii) there has been no material loss in value of the Property from its value had it accorded with its catalogue description.
- (iv) the sole grounds for claiming that the item is a Counterfeit are based on a difference of opinion between Morton & Eden Ltd and a third-party coin grading service

To claim under this Guarantee, the Buyer must:-

- (i) notify Morton & Eden Ltd. in writing within one (1) month of receiving any information that causes the Buyer to question the authenticity or attribution of the Property, specifying the lot number, date of the auction at which it was purchased and the reasons why it is believed to be Counterfeit; and
- (ii) return the Property to Morton & Eden Ltd. in the same condition as at the date of sale and be able to transfer good title in the Property, free from any third party claims arising after the date of the sale.

Morton & Eden Ltd. has discretion to waive any of the above requirements. Morton & Eden Ltd. may require the Buyer to obtain at the Buyer's cost the reports of two independent and recognised experts in the relevant field and acceptable to Morton & Eden Ltd. Morton & Eden Ltd. shall not be bound by any reports produced by the Buyer, and reserves the right to seek additional expert advice at its own expense. In the event Morton & Eden Ltd. decides to rescind the sale under this Guarantee, it may refund to the Buyer the reasonable costs of up to two mutually approved independent expert reports, provided always that the costs of such reports have been approved in advance and in writing by Morton & Eden Ltd.

## MORTON & EDEN LTD

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Please bid on my behalf at the above sale for the following Lot(s) up to the hammer price(s) mentioned below. These bids are to be executed as cheaply as is permitted by other bids or reserves and in an amount up to but not exceeding the specified amount. The auctioneer may open the bidding on any lot by placing a bid on behalf of the seller. The auctioneer may further bid on behalf of the seller up to the amount of the reserve by placing responsive or consecutive bids for a lot.

I agree to be bound by Morton & Eden's Conditions of Business. If any bid is successful, I agree to pay a buyer's premium on the hammer price at the rate stated in the front of the catalogue and any VAT, or amounts in lieu of VAT, which may be due on the buyer's premium and the hammer price.

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